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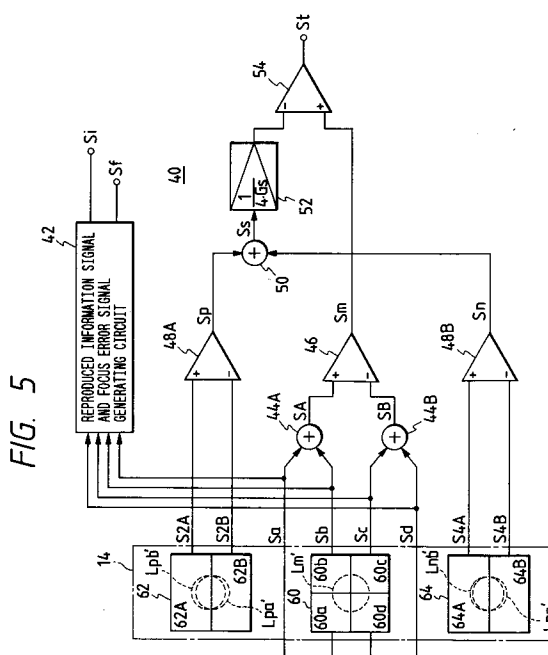
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**London WC1V 7RD(GB)**(54) **Optical recording and/or reproducing apparatus.**

(57) An optical recording and/or reproducing apparatus in which a main light beam and at least two auxiliary light beams are caused to impinge upon a disc (D) for recording information thereon or reproducing information therefrom in such a manner that light beam spots formed on the disc (D) by two auxiliary light beams are respectively distant substantially the same distance from a light beam spot formed on the disc (D) by the main light beam with a space therebetween in a radial direction of the disc (D) corresponding to  $N/2$  times a track pitch on the disc (D), and then guided from the disc (D) to a photosensor (14) comprising a first photodetecting element (60) divided into two parts for detecting the main light beam and a second photodetecting element (62) divided into two parts for detecting both of two auxiliary light beams, and a tracking error signal is produced based on a difference between detection outputs derived respectively from two parts of the first photodetecting element (60) and a difference between detection outputs derived respectively from two parts of the second photodetecting element (62), one of which is subjected to level adjustment (52) for compensating a difference in intensity between the main light beam and each of the two auxiliary light beams.





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## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

**EP 90 30 7541**

### DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category                                                                         | Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages                                                                                                             | Relevant to claim                                                       | CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.5) |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| A,D,A                                                                            | EP-A-0 201 603 (SONY CORP.)<br>* claims 1-3; figures 8, 9 & JP-A-61094246 *<br>- - -                                                                                                      | 1-5,7,8                                                                 | G 11 B 7/09<br>G 11 B 7/13<br>G 11 B 7/135    |
| A                                                                                | PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 10, no. 34<br>(P-427)(2091) 08 February 1986,<br>& JP-A-60 182523 (NEC HOME ELECTRONICS K.K.) 18<br>September 1985,<br>* the whole document *<br>- - - - - | 5,6                                                                     |                                               |
|                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                         | TECHNICAL FIELDS<br>SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)      |
|                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                         | G 11 B                                        |
| The present search report has been drawn up for all claims                       |                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                         |                                               |
| Place of search                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                           | Date of completion of search                                            | Examiner                                      |
| Berlin                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                           | 13 November 91                                                          | BERNAS Y.N.E.                                 |
| CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                         |                                               |
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| P : intermediate document                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                           | & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document            |                                               |
| T : theory or principle underlying the invention                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                         |                                               |